

## ABSTRACT

A punching tool for green sheets or similar sheetlike workpieces has a support plate, with punched holes (7) embodied in it, and a holding-down plate, which is disposed above the support plate and in which holding-down openings (24) are embodied. Dies (8) extend with their operative portions (23) through the stripper openings (24) and are guided in them. The operative portions (23) are embodied in graduated form. They have a punching portion (26) of reduced diameter. The length of each punching portion (26) is less than the length of the stripper opening (24). When the die (8) is at its top dead center, the punching portion (26) is located entirely in the stripper opening (24). Moreover, a fragment of the portion (25) that belongs to the operative portion (23) protrudes into the stripper opening (24), in order to guide the die (8).

The punching portion (26) is only approximately as long as required for the punching stroke of the die (8). Its length preferably matches the length of the punching stroke. The slight length of the punching portion (26) makes an especially slender embodiment of the punching portion possible, thus making it possible to create especially small punched holes.

(Fig. 3)